

HEADS OF NEW MEDICAL COURSE AT N. Y. U.



Dr. Charles Norris.



Dr. Harrison S. Martland.

N. Y. U. WILL TRAIN MEDICAL OFFICERS

Dr. Charles Norris to Head
New Branch Giving Instruc-
tion in Toxicology.

FEW SUCH COURSES HERE

Hailed as Step Toward System of
Scientific Crime Detection
Like Those in Europe.

New York University will train medical examiners and toxicologists in a newly formed department of Forensic Medicine at the university and Bellevue Hospital Medical College, Chancellor Elmer Ellsworth Brown announced yesterday.

Dean John Wyckoff of the Medical College, hailed the new department, one of the first of its kind in this country, as a step toward a system of scientific crime detection which might some day rank with the system of medico-legal institutes of Europe.

Dr. Charles Norris, chief medical examiner of New York, has been named Professor of Forensic Medicine and will head the new department. Dr. Harrison Martland, chief medical examiner of Essex County, N. J., has been appointed Associate Professor of Forensic Medicine.

Other members of the departmental faculty will be Dr. Alexander O. Gettler, city toxicologist, who will become Professor of Toxicology; Dr. Douglas Symmers, director of laboratories at Bellevue Hospital, who will be Professor of Gross Pathology; Dr. Armin V. St. George, Assistant Professor of Gross Pathology, and Dr. Thomas A. Gonzales, deputy chief medical examiner of the City of New York, Assistant Professor of Forensic Medicine.

The term "forensic medicine," the announcement explained, is a common one in Continental Europe, where institutes of legal medicine are an integral part of the Ministries of Justice and cooperate with police systems in the solution and prevention of crimes.

"Legal medicine is an important subject in most European universities, since the medico-legal institutes are usually a part of the university medical schools," said Dean Wyckoff.

"In most American universities the teaching of legal medicine is limited to a few lectures to undergraduate medical students on 'medical jurisprudence.'"

Dr. Norris explained that the courses planned by the new department will include a required short course to fourth year medical students covering salient points as to what constitutes medical examiners' cases, proper signing of death certificates, and testimony in court; an optional laboratory course to fourth year students consisting of a month's work in the medical examiner's office assisting at necropsies; a post-graduate course of three years in the office of the medical examiner leading to a degree, and a post-graduate course in toxicology leading to a degree.

The required course for seniors will consist of six lectures—two by Dr. Norris, two by Dr. Martland, one by Dr. Gettler, and one by a member of the faculty of law to be named later. The laboratory work for the fourth year students and the post-graduates will include attendance at autopsies, the taking of post-mortem notes, and laboratory work in connection with microscopic examination of sections and bacteriological examinations, Dr. Norris said.